



World Food Programme

SAVING
LIVES
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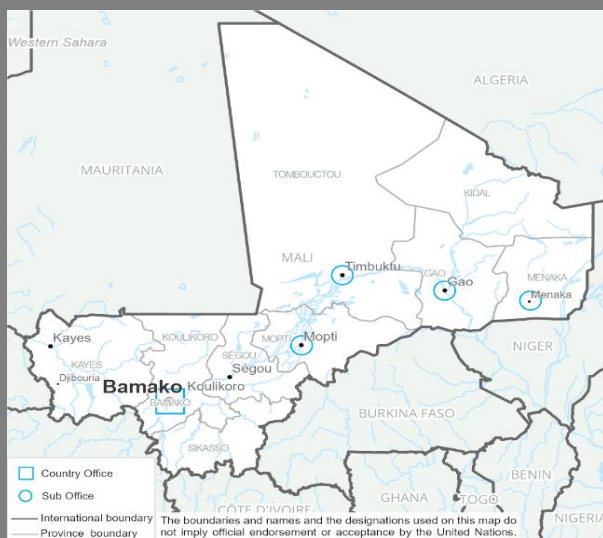
WFP Mali Country Brief November-December 2025

Operational Context

Mali, a vast land-locked country at the heart of the Sahel region, is facing a rapidly deteriorating humanitarian situation. The security situation remains volatile, with rising criminal, armed groups insurgent operations, and intensified FAMA (the national armed forces of Mali) actions, including airstrikes. Suicide drones are an emerging threat. Displacement and humanitarian needs are increasing as operational space shrinks.

Amid soaring costs, escalating insecurity, and unprecedented fuel constraints, WFP remains operational through contingency measures, including solar energy solutions—currently underway in Bamako, with additional installations planned for Timbuktu and Gao—teleworking arrangements, and adjusted UNHAS flight patterns. The Country Office continues to secure a minimum 30-day fuel stock across all locations.

As part of resource-based prioritization, by December 2025, WFP provided emergency food and nutrition assistance to 660,000 beneficiaries (a 25 percent reduction compared to 2024), with reduced rations (70 percent) and a shortened duration due to the finding constraints.



Population: **22.6 million**

Chronic malnutrition: **25% of children aged 6-59 months** (EDS, 2023-2024)

2022 Human Development Index: **188 out of 193**

Income Level: **Low income**

In Numbers

53%



47%



711,879 people assisted*

831 mt of food assistance distributed*

US\$ 11.1 million distributed in cash-based transfers

US\$ 12.9 million six-months net funding requirement (January - June 2026), representing 30 percent of the total requirement

* Preliminary figures

Operational Updates

- Emergency food assistance:** Between November and December, WFP assisted **302,868** beneficiaries from vulnerable host communities (especially in Menaka, Gao, Mopti, Timbuktu, Segou, Kidal and Taoudenit), **54,234** internally displaced persons, and **87,036** refugees with UNHCR and National Commission for Refugees (CNCR). WFP distributed **529 mt** of rice, oil, millet and US\$ **5,715,658** in cash-based transfers.
- Nutrition:** WFP provided nutritional support to refugees, internally displaced persons (IDPs) and host communities, reaching over **31,700** children aged 6-23 months and **25,500** pregnant and breastfeeding women and girls. A total of **133 mt** of nutritional products (CSB++)/Oil were distributed and US\$ **1,400,000** in cash-based transfers for the purchase of locally sourced products, nutrient-rich foods. In health facilities, **139 mt** of RUSF/SuperCereal Plus (CSB++)/Oil were distributed to support **11,000** moderately malnourished children aged 6-59 months, and **2,510** pregnant and breastfeeding women under the MAM programme.
- School Feeding:** WFP ensured that all **352 schools** remained operational during November and December, providing meals to **107,000 children**, including **2,676** students in Kidal, thereby supporting attendance and retention. However, due to fuel shortages, Malian authorities ordered a 2-weeks nationwide school closure until the beginning of November, briefly disrupting the academic calendar.
- Social safety nets:** WFP supported approximately **20,000** households across Koulikoro, Gao, Menaka, Timbuktu, and Mopti. Assistance included cash transfers totaling US\$ **146,120** to **11,046** individuals to strengthen resilience; US\$ **39,096** to support **859** children and prevent malnutrition; and US\$ **28,347** to assist **724** pregnant and breastfeeding women, improving maternal health. Additionally, WFP shared with the Government the findings of the Unified Social Registry (RSU) diagnostic study and provided a clear roadmap to enhance the instrument's effectiveness.
- Resilience and food systems:** WFP prioritized 64 vulnerable sites, supporting 34,235 participants in community asset creation through cash transfers. In stunting prevention, 1,067 households benefited from nutrition-sensitive income activities, while 8,997 children and 5,970 pregnant and breastfeeding women received locally produced supplements. Additionally, 22 food-processing unit beneficiaries were trained, strengthening local nutrition production capacity.
- UN Humanitarian Air Service (UNHAS):** UNHAS transported 1,062 passengers and 7.3 metric tons of cargo across seven destinations. In November, operations were disrupted by fuel shortages in Bamako; however, technical refueling stops in Burkina Faso allowed services to resume normally in December. Gao currently maintains reserves sufficient to sustain operations for at least six months.

Contact info: fatoumatahouma.ba@wfp.org
Country Director: Jacqueline FLENTGE, a.i. Country Director
Further information: www.wfp.org/countries/MALI

Photo Caption: a local female farmer sorts rice from the Hamadia perimeter in Timbuktu, rehabilitated by the World Food Programme after the devastating 2024 floods.

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WFP Country Strategy

Country Strategic Plan (2020-2026)

Total Requirements (US\$)	Total Received (US\$)
1.56 billion	759,1 million
2025 Requirements (US\$)	Six-Month Net Funding Requirements (in US\$) (January - June 2026)
148.2 million	12.9 million

Strategic Result 1: Everyone has access to food

Strategic Outcome #1: Crisis-affected people in targeted areas, including refugees and internally displaced persons, are able to meet their basic food and nutrition needs during and in the immediate aftermath of a crisis. **Focus area:** *Crisis Response*

Activities:

Provide an integrated food assistance package to vulnerable people affected by crisis based on a needs assessment and ensure that preparedness measures are taken to support a response that is timely, effective, efficient, equitable and in line with the national safety nets strategy.

Strategic Outcome #2: Food-insecure populations, including school-age girls and boys, in targeted areas have access to adequate and nutritious food all year-round. **Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

Activities:

Provide school meals to girls and boys during the school year in targeted areas in a way that supports local markets and promotes girls' enrolment

Strategic Result 2: No one suffers from malnutrition

Strategic Outcome #3: Nutritionally vulnerable populations in targeted areas, including children and pregnant and lactating women and girls, have improved nutritional status throughout the year. **Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

Activities:

Support national nutrition programme to ensure the provision of preventive and curative nutrition services (including SBCC, local food fortification, complementary feeding and capacity strengthening) to targeted populations.

Strategic Result 3: Smallholder productivity and incomes

Strategic Outcome #4: Communities in targeted areas, including smallholder farmers (particularly women-led groups), have more resilient livelihoods for improved food security and nutrition throughout the year. **Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

Activities:

Provide conditional support to food-insecure vulnerable households, linked to the development or rehabilitation of productive, natural, or social assets, the intensification and diversification of livelihood activities and improved access to market, using integrated, gender, equitable and participatory community approaches.

Strategic Result 5: Countries strengthened capacities

Strategic Outcome #5: By 2030, national institutions and entities have strengthened capacities to manage equitable food security, nutrition and social protection policies, programmes and interventions in support of zero hunger. **Focus area:** *Resilience Building*

Strategic Result 8: Global partnership support

Strategic Outcome #6: Humanitarian partners in Mali have access to common services that enable them to reach and operate in crisis-affected areas throughout the year.

Activities:

- Provide UNHAS services flight services that allow partners to reach areas of humanitarian intervention.
- Provide logistics, information and communications technology, common and coordination services, as well as other preparedness interventions in the absence of alternatives, to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.
- Provide on-demand engineering services to support effective and efficient humanitarian response.
- Provide Humanitarian Air service in Support of DG-ECHO Funded Projects.
- Two flights were operated to Menaka, while Kidal remains restricted to emergency services due to a damaged airstrip awaiting rehabilitation. Despite these challenges, UNHAS continues to ensure critical access for humanitarian actors and vulnerable populations in remote areas.
- **Protection-Gender-AAEP:** WFP finalized the Integrated Context Analysis for Resilience and Adaptation (ICARA) reports and carried out a rapid review of gender mainstreaming within resilience activities. WFP reaffirmed its commitment to ending violence against women and girls through a two-week campaign in Timbuktu, Gao, and Mopti, which included awareness sessions in displacement sites and staff training in collaboration with UNFPA, FAO, and UNICEF. On accountability, 93 percent of cases reported through the Complaints and Feedback Mechanism were resolved, with actions underway for the remaining cases.

Challenges

- **Humanitarian access:** Mali continues to face a severe fuel shortage, disrupting services in the capital and central regions. Despite government efforts to secure supply convoys, attacks by non-state armed groups persist. WFP is increasing fuel stocks and installing solar panels to strengthen energy resilience. UNHAS flights resumed on 2 December after a two-week suspension, supported by government fuel allocations and contingency reserves. At the same time, armed groups have intensified attacks on economic infrastructure and tightened controls along key routes, compounding the energy crisis and further constraining humanitarian access and life-saving operations.
- **Funding gap:** The funding situation for WFP Mali remains critical, with a 53 percent gap (USD 12,4 million) in its crisis response component and a pipeline break expected in February. WFP Mali urgently requires additional resources to sustain emergency operations.

Donors

Current donors to WFP Mali include the USA, Spain, European Commission, EU/ECHO, UN CERF, France, Germany, Japan, Luxembourg, Liechtenstein, Monaco, Switzerland, Sweden, Denmark, Belgium, United Kingdom, Canada, the Republic of Korea, and private sector.